NEWSLETTER

DIVISION OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

April, 1955 Vol. 8, No. 4

Editors: Harold M. Hildreth
Helen D. Sargent

MIDWINTER MEETING

The Executive Committee held its Midwinter Meeting in Chicago at the Hotel Sherman on February 25 and 26, 1955. In spite of recognized advantages of the earlier date instituted last year, other committments of the Committee members made the weekend preceding the Annual Meeting of the American Orthopsychiatric Association most feasible. Executive Committee members and committee chairmen who attended the meeting were: Dr. Ann Garner (former Secretary), Dr. Harold Hildreth, Dr. Robert Holt, Dr. George Klein, Dr. Jean Macfarlane, Dr. James Miller (Chairman of Committee on Theory and Practice), Dr. Frances Perce (Chairman of Auditing Committee), Dr. Victor Raimy, Dr. Anne Roe, Dr. Helen Sargent, Dr. Roy Schafer.

Reports from all of the Divisional Committees were presented and approved. The following is a condensation of discussion and actions taken.

AUDITING COMMITTEE. The Chairman reported that the books of the Division had been examined and were found to be in order.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE. Plans for the 1955 Program were presented by Dr. Macfarlane, Chairman, and a number of suggestions for symposia were considered. It was suggested that problems arising in the work of divisional committees might provide worthwhile topics for discussion, as, for example, the matters being considered by the Committee on Theory and Practice, the Professional Practice Committee, and the Psychotherapy Committee. Additional suggestions included symposia on problems of clinical training, possibly including a survey of opinions on training problems, supervision, evaluation of internship training, or a symposium by students in training programs. Ways and means for setting up cross-disciplinary programs, especially some which would include experimental and theoretical contributions from members of other divisions, were discussed, and the names of a number of individuals who might be approached by the Program Committee were suggested.

ELECTIONS COMMITTEE. The Secretary reported for Dr. Hunt, Chairman, who was unable to be present. This year the Elections Committee was instructed, by vote of the Executive Committee at its September, 1954, meeting, to try out a new system to increase participation by members of the Division in the nominations procedure.

FOR ANNOUNCEMENT OF POST DOCTORAL INSTITUTE AND APPLICATION FORM SEE PAGE 6.

On the assumption that many members fail to return the Nominating Ballot because of lack of information on the availability and qualifications of potential officers and Executive Committee members, the new procedure requires that the Elections Committee draw up a list (to be published with the ballot) of persons whose willingness to run for election has been determined. In compiling this list, the Elections Committee made an effort to contact members who have not previously served in order to distribute activity in divisional affairs more widely. The list was approved by the Executive Committee to be included with a list of former committee chairmen of the past three years who are not now serving as members of the Executive Committee.

It was reported that, due to an increase in the size of the division membership, our quota of Council Representatives has been increased from six to seven. This requires that we elect, this year, three Council Representatives, one member-at-large, and the President-Elect.

POST-DOCTORAL INSTITUTE. Plans for the 1955 Post-Doctoral Institute submitted by Dr. Louis Levine, Chairman, were reviewed and approved (see page 6). Dr. Levine's report raised a problem in scheduling the Institute at a time when accommodations would be available, but which might involve overlapping with the first day of the APA meeting. The Executive Committee went on record as favoring shortening the Institute, if necessary, rather than to conflict with the convention program. (This problem has now been solved by a change in the location of the Institute from San Francisco State College to Stanford University.)

An informal and unofficial proposal from Dr. T. Ernest Newland to explore whether a joint Institute between Division 12 and the Division of School Psychologists might be worthwhile was considered. It was felt that plans are too far advanced for a joint undertaking this year, but the Committee favored looking into this possibility for the future, provided that problems of financing and other questions could be worked out.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE. A number of problems were raised in the report of the Membership Committee, including interpretation of the new requirements for a given amount of experience in an interdisciplinary setting, the distinction between "counseling" and "clinical" experience, the manner of making clear to applicants the basis for rejection or deferment, the conflict between ABEPP standards and Fellowship requirements (due to the APA policy of denying requests for waivers of the five-year post-doctoral experience clause) and the need of the Membership Committee for more specific "guide lines" in various aspects of selection. It was felt by the Executive Committee that, particularly in view of possible APA reorganization of division structure and membership standards, no more specific guides could be provided at this time. It was reiterated that members are accepted or rejected by the Division, rather than by the Membership Committee alone, through a series of steps which provided for participation by the membership at large (after the publication of the Committees' recommendation in the August Newsletter) and for final action by the Executive Committee in the case of Associates, and of the Executive Committee and the APA Membership Committee on Fellow applicants. When the Membership Committee is in full agreement, its decision is final unless objection is raised by members before or at the Annual Business Meeting. The Executive Committee is available to advise on all doubtful applications, on an individual basis, and assumes final responsibility for the Membership Committee's actions. The overall Divisional policy is to provide sufficient flexibility in the written standards to prevent arbitrary decisions and to permit the exercise of judgment.

One further item of Membership Committee business was the proposal to amend the By-Laws to provide for an additional member on the Membership Committee, in order to retain a five-vote full committee and to relieve the Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Associates from voting on Fellow applicants.

PSYCHOTHERAPY COMMITTEE. The report of the Psychotherapy Committee indicated that this committee is still compiling a bibliography of verbatim transcripts of therapeutic interviews. It was suggested that the Committee, through its experience in compiling this material, might be in a position to stimulate discussion of the research use of transcriptions. It was proposed that Dr. Seeman, Chairman, be invited to organize a symposium on this topic for the Program or, if the work is not sufficiently advanced for this purpose, that he be asked to prepare a more detailed report for inclusion in a forthcoming Newsletter.

Dr. Seeman's report also raised the question as to whether it would be desirable for the Psychotherapy Committee to undertake a survey of training in psychotherapy. Dr. Raimy, member of the Evaluation and Training Board, was delegated to bring the matter informally before that board to determine whether it might be an E & T function to conduct such a survey, or whether it would be willing to sponsor the undertaking if carried out by Division 12.

In discussing sources of information for a study of this kind it was recognized that a great deal of data on training and experience is available in the applications on file for Division 12. A motion was carried to authorize the Secretary to spend $100 to do a pilot study to determine whether a more exhaustive analysis of this material would be of value.

COMMITTEE ON LIAISON WITH DIVISIONS 16 AND 17. Dr. Raimy reported on the Washington meeting (February 23-26) for consideration of the OVR program for the training of rehabilitation counsellors. The growing importance of the rehabilitation field, and the role which clinical psychology might play in this area, were discussed at length. The Secretary was instructed to write to Dr. Francis P. Robinson, President of Division 17, to express our willingness to cooperate in their project for developing a program of rehabilitation counseling.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE. The report of Dr. Richards, Chairman of the Professional Practice Committee, included a letter which has been sent to members of his committee, raising a number of questions for consideration, including the possibility of investigating non-legislative controls of professional practice (particularly in relation to the proposed APA-APA moratorium), relations between ABEPP and the new Board of Psychological Services, and the suggestion that the Professional Practice Committee might assume responsibility for research in these and related areas as a function of Division 12. Since the APA Legislative Committee is in the process of considering non-legislative or "social" controls to govern the standards of psychologists, it was suggested that the Professional Practice Committee keep in touch with Dr. Stanley Ericksen, a member of the Council's Committee on Legislation. The Executive Committee shared Dr. Richards' questions about the functions and procedures of the Board for Psychological Services, and the Secretary was instructed to write to Dr. Kohn requesting clarification. The Executive Committee was in agreement with Dr. Richards that a function of the Professional Practice Committee should be the collection and analysis of information on professional practice problems.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE. Dr. Lorr, Chairman, reported that a list of 300 titles of doctoral dissertations has been compiled and is ready for distribution to the membership. Questions regarding the most effective and economical method of distribution were considered. It was felt that the most appropriate place for the list would be in the Psychological Abstracts and that Division 12 might assume the responsibility for keeping the list up to date annually. (Note: more recent information reveals that space in the Abstracts is at a premium and that the practice of printing titles of dissertations has been discontinued. It has since been decided, therefore, to distribute the list with the Newsletter; probably with the June issue.)

The Research Committee also made the proposal that Division 12 consider setting up research awards to stimulate and recognize outstanding contributions in the field of clinical psychology. Unfortunately, the large amount of other business made it impossible to discuss this question, but it has been placed on the agenda for the meeting in September.

DIAGNOSTIC DEVICES COMMITTEE. The report of Dr. Shneidman, Chairman, indicates that the Committee is engaged in analyzing various psychological tests in relation to the optimal standards (for validity, for reliability, norms, etc.) set forth in the 1952 Report of the Committee on Test Standards. The goals of the project are to ascertain how actual test usage compares with standards, and how applicable the standards are deemed to be; to develop suggestions leading to revision, if necessary; and to provide suggestions to the developers of clinical tests in making use of the standards. A further report will be available at the time of the Annual Meeting.

COMMITTEE ON THEORY AND PRACTICE. Dr. Miller, Chairman, reported that eighteen responses were received to the notice in the October Newsletter soliciting suggestions and expressions of interest in the work of this committee. He reported also that Division 17, under the leadership of Dr. Mathewson, has been engaged in a similar project which has also aroused unprecedented response. Plans for a meeting of representatives of various interested divisions and of related professional groups has been planned for April, for the purpose of setting up a large-scale project, possibly with Foundation support, to stimulate groups in various parts of the country to meet for the consideration of problems in many areas on which the pooling of thinking from different points of view and different backgrounds may effect integration of concepts. It was agreed that the Clinical Division should recognize this as an area for the development of an interest group, and that the President should appoint a committee to develop a plan and to discover what the group's function should be. It was also suggested that a topical discussion group on problems of theory and practice be set up for the Division program at APA.

INTERPROFESSIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE. This committee was instituted last year as a "stand-by" committee to be called upon in case of need. Dr. Bobbitt, Chairman, reported that he had nothing to add to the widely disseminated information about the proposed moratorium. At the time of the Executive Committee meeting, the APA office was in the process of distributing additional reports and information following the January meeting of the two committees on Relations Between Psychiatry and Psychology. We were able to obtain the new summary from Dr. Sanford before the meeting adjourned, but there was insufficient time to fully digest and discuss it. The Secretary reported that only 15 letters from Division 12 members had been received and that all but one went on record as opposed. It was recognized that this response is in no way an adequate sample of membership opinion. The members of the Executive Committee did not feel in a position to reach a decision on any concerted stand for or against the moratorium without an opportunity for further study of the latest developments. It was emphasized, however, that, whereas the moratorium as originally proposed was rather generally conceived as a "moratorium on legislation," the more recent concept describes "a moratorium on unilateral action" which carries a different implication.

The American Psychiatric Association has gone on record as approving mandatory certification, and has accepted the New Jersey bill as an approved model. It was reported also that the psychiatric association agreed to request the American Medical Association to cooperate, and to discontinue amendments to medical practice acts during the moratorium period.

Dr. Miller reviewed the four types of legislation which relate to certification and/or licensure as follows: (1) permissive certification: legislation in which the law states that a term like "certified psychologist" is restricted only to those who have passed an examination. Such a law does not prevent the use of other terms such as "psychologist," "psychometrician," "clinical psychologist," etc.; (2) mandatory certification: in which the law requires that all psychologists register and take an examination if they are to practice in the state and are permitted to use the designated title; (3) restrictive licensing, in which the law states that "no one but" a licensed psychologist can carry out certain defined activities; (4) non-restrictive licensing, in which the law provides that practice as defined in the bill can be done by individuals of certain specified professional training. The American Psychiatric Association also requests that a "disclaimer" clause, stating that the certification is not to be construed as permitting the practice of medicine, be included in certification bills. The Executive Committee agreed to study the new materials on the moratorium, and to exchange further reactions by mail communication.

APA REORGANIZATION. The proposed APA reorganization of division structure (see February Newsletter), like the moratorium, was felt to be much too large and complicated an issue on which to reach a concensus of opinion by discussion at a single meeting. Dr. Roe schematized one conception of how a reorganization into a smaller number of divisions, broken up into interest groups, might work, and the Committee used this as a take-off for discussing many possible problems, benefits, and other implications. It was agreed that the Roe schema should be made available to the Executive Committee for further study and that we would continue to consider the problem of reorganization, exchanging views by mail, in preparation for continued discussion at the Annual Meeting. (To date eight reactions have been received from members in response to the comments which appeared in the February Newsletter.)

PROPOSAL FROM DIVISION ON DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

The Division on Developmental Psychology (formerly Division on Childhood and Adolescence) is concerned about an apparent neglect of training in clinical psychology for work with children. To explore their problem the Committee on Training and Ethical Standards for Working with Children has been appointed by Boyd McCandless, President of Division 7. The members of this committee are all members of Division 12 as well as Division 7. Our present task is limited to the aspect of training standards. The committee wishes to solicit comments and suggestions from members of Division 12 regarding this problem. We are concerned with three general areas of the problem. (1) What should be the basic training in child development of all clinicians? (2) What should be the training of all clinicians in clinical work with children? (3) Should there be a specialty of child clinical psychology and what should this training include?

Communications to any of the committee members will be most welcomed.

Liselotte K. Fischer
Max Levin
L. Joseph Stone
Joseph E. Brewer, Chairman

NEWS NOTE

Word has been received from J. E. W. Wallin, who will be remembered as the author of the first text on clinical psychology, that at the age of 79 he has just concluded a two-month, 5600 mile, motor trip through thirteen states in the Southwest, delivering talks in Wichita, Kansas, Oklahoma City, Austin, and Beaumont, Texas. He engaged in a brief survey of provisions for all kinds of handicapped children, and while in Dallas published two books, The Education of Mentally Handicapped Children (Harper's Education for Living Series) and The Odyssey of a Psychologist, his own publication.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE POST-DOCTORAL TRAINING INSTITUTES FOR 1955

Stanford University - August 24th - 30th

The Post-Doctoral training Institutes sponsored by the Division of Clinical Psychology will meet at Stanford University the week prior to the beginning of the American Psychological Association. APA meetings begin September 1 in San Francisco and the VA staff meetings are scheduled for August 31.

For persons attending the Institutes, living quarters will be available at Stanford University at a cost of $15.00 for the period August 24 to August 30. Participants living either on or off campus during the Institutes may utilize on-campus eating facilities for breakfast and lunch. Stanford University is located 30 miles south of San Francisco, and is one hour away from downtown San Francisco. Although it is not mandatory that participants utilize the University dormitory accommodations, it is anticipated, however, that for most participants these facilities will afford the most reasonable and convenient housing arrangement.

Applications for the Institutes are presently being received from members of Divisions 12 and 17. Applicants should either hold the doctorate or be diplomates of ABEPP. Attendance in each of the five courses scheduled will be limited to twelve participants. It is, therefore, extremely desirable that interested individuals should not delay submitting the attached application form. A tuition fee of $50.00 will be required, as has been the case in previous years, and will be payable upon acceptance and enrollment.

VA Psychologists Please Note

VA Psychologists who desire to enroll in the Institute should apply for admission without delay, using the attached application form. In addition, they should submit a request for payment of tuition through their station to the Assistant Chief Medical Director for Research and Education. Upon approval of the request in Central Office, the appropriate area office will be authorized to pay the tuition following termination of the Institute. (Complications have arisen in the past, from the fact that the Institute finances require advance payment of tuition, whereas VA regulations provide only for reimbursement after attendance. This year Division 12 has agreed to accept advance letters of commitment from the area chiefs in lieu of tuition until after the close of the Institute. Such commitments will be made only, after acceptance by the Institute and VA approval. Prompt application is therefore necessary.)

The group leaders and the courses to be offered are as follows:

Neurological and Physiological Aspects of Clinical Psychology	Starke Hathaway
Methods of Supervision in Clinical Psychology	Rudolf Ekstein
Psychotherapy With Children	Bruno Bettelheim
Research Methods in Clinical Psychology	Joseph Zubin
Psychotherapy with Adults	_____

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION
TO THE
POST-DOCTORAL TRAINING INSTITUTES 1955

I. Name _____

II. Address _____

III. I am a Fellow ( ) Associate ( ) of Division (s) 12 ( ) 17 ( )

IV. Highest degree in Psychology _____ Date _____ from (institution) _____

V. Indicate the courses for which you are applying. Offer your second and third preference in addition to your first choice.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

VI. Present professional position

1. Title _____

2. Name and nature of the organization _____

3. Describe the work performed _____

_____

_____

_____

VII. Describe your previous professional experience in clinical psychology during the last five years. _____

_____

_____

VIII. On a separate sheet please indicate your particular areas of interest and the way in which you believe this participation in the institute of your choice would contribute to your professional development. These statements will be turned over to the group leader for orientation purposes.

IX. *Check for $50.00 enclosed _____. Bill me _____.

Date _____ Signature _____

Return to: DR. LOUIS S. LEVINE
Department of Psychology
San Francisco State College
1600 Holloway Avenue
San Francisco 27, California

*Checks should be made payable to the Division of Clinical Psychology. All money will be refunded if an applicant is not accepted.